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# Torches of Beauty

## GLADIOLUS FARM

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# **“Gladiolus Farm” 1920**

## **Seventh Annual Catalogue**

“TORCHES OF BEAUTY” is an apt description of a collection of gladioli, whether lifting their stately spikes in the garden or displayed in harmonious setting indoors. So infinite are the shades displayed that one is tempted to believe that the bulbs share with the prism the power to transmute clear white sunlight into the varied colors of the rainbow.

Delicate and deep pinks, soft yellows, glowing reds and rare blues, all are at the disposal of the discriminating gardener. Many lovely sorts are extremely moderate in price, and these can be planted generously to form sheets of effective color; but as velvets, tapestries or rugs of exclusive design and richness can be recognized and appreciated at a glance, so the aristocrats of the gladiolus world are full of distinction and well worth the higher prices which must necessarily be asked for the unusual and the unique.

### **THEIR GARDEN REQUIREMENTS**

Gladioli are sun-worshippers, but as to soil are not fastidious so long as it is not extremely heavy. Even then, the texture may be lightened by adding sand or well-decomposed manure. The latter should always be applied the season before, as all bulbs resent its addition at planting time. Bone meal is an excellent fertilizer.

A bulb of moderate size should be set four or five inches deep, the larger ones six inches, while four to six inches apart in the row is the proper distance. Rows a foot apart are very convenient when planted for mass effect or for cut flowers. A space ten by ten feet will accommodate between two hundred and three hundred bulbs.

### **TO PROLONG THE FLOWERING SEASON**

By successional planting every two weeks, beginning when the first earth is turned for the vegetable garden and ending June 1, you can have an abundance of gladioli until frost. Sometimes it is desirable to prolong

the display at some particular point. In that event, decide where the bulbs are to be planted, then plant a third or a fourth of them, indicating the unplanted spaces by little twigs stuck into the ground, to be removed as other bulbs are put in later.

### ARE YOU IN A NEW HOME?

The first year of occupancy finds the grounds of the new home looking decidedly bare. Plant gladioli liberally between the small shrubs or roses (later the shrubbery will shade the gladioli too much unless it is simply used as a background) and in the perennial borders where plants are not yet fully established. From late June until frost your grounds will be gay with bloom. The next season these bulbs can be grown in any desired new location for cut flowers.

No one appreciates more fully the value of gladioli than does the renter. The bulbs give their full effect the first season and are easily removed to new quarters.

### AT THE SEASHORE

Yes, gladioli thrive near the sea, and they bloom at just the right time to be enjoyed by cottage dwellers there.

### GIFTS OF FLOWERS OR BULBS

Gladiolus bulbs are out-of-the-ordinary gifts greatly appreciated by the possessor of a garden. I make up attractive boxes of any desired value, and mail with the giver's card any time from December 15 to May 15.

A dozen cut gladioli make an ideal gift to the invalid or convalescent, or for marking an anniversary. From July 1 until early October I am prepared to send such boxes at from \$1.50 to \$2.50, charges prepaid within three hundred miles of Portland. The donor's card is included upon request.



### AS CUT FLOWERS

No other flowers keep so marvelously. By simply removing the faded flowers from the lower part of the spikes, a bouquet will retain its beauty a week or more.

The flowers carry splendidly by mail or express. Pack closely in a strong pasteboard box, merely lining the box with tissue paper.

### A SUGGESTION

As my assortment of varieties is naturally broken as the season advances, it is suggested that an early order will assure against disappointment. Shipment will be made at any desired time.





## The Gladiolus in Garden Pictures

Although the Gladiolus has for many years been one of the most popular flowers, it has not yet come fully into its own. Its usefulness as a factor in achieving lovely pictures in the garden is but half suspected, and while, as a cut flower its importance has long been recognized, the more subtle employment of these lovely flowers in crowning interior decorative schemes is almost an untried field.

In the garden we are coming more and more to plan our beds and borders with a view to bringing about beautiful pictures, rather than merely to grow healthy, luxuriant plants. The haphazard assemblages of old gardens are not the ideal of today. Now when we set side by side two plants we do not intend that later on, at the period of their blossoming, they shall cry out at each other, but that the form and color of one shall enhance the beauty of the other; and so on throughout the border until we have attained a harmonious breadth of color that is a continual delight to the eye. It is in this sort of gardening that the Gladiolus, is pre-eminently fitted to shine. No other flower can boast so wide a range of color; we may choose at will just the desired hue for the completion of any flower picture, and, moreover, by nicely timing the planting of the bulbs, the great spikes may be brought to perfection at any time from late June throughout the autumn that suits the plans of the picture-making gardener.

Heretofore Gladioli have been largely planted in beds to themselves or in long rows. This is well enough for cutting or for a special display, but let me suggest a few associations for some of the newer varieties that have seemed to me particularly happy in the borders among other flowers of their season. My feeling is that when thus used the bulbs should be set rather close together and in groups of not less than twelve of one variety. In this way the fine colors count distinctly in the general effect and the sturdy spikes lend strength and definition to the borders, whereas when scattered about in twos and threes these desirable ends are not attained.

Red is ever the difficult hue to handle in the garden. Such gorgeous Gladioli as War and Principle need careful placing if they are to live at peace with their neighbors. For myself, I like a cool setting for such brilliant beauties among lavender and dim blue flowers—Campanulas, Aconites, Goat's-rue, Clary and Meadow Sage; and nothing could be more effective than sheaves of late-planted red and scarlet Gladioli thrusting through a haze of September-flowering Michaelmas Daisies—lavender, white and purple. White Musk Mallows with scarlet Gladioli planted among them give a gay effect and the splendid War massed against white Phlox shows at its best.

I know that my gardening friends will be as appreciative as I am to Louise Beebe Wilder for the following delightful and instructive article on gladioli, written expressly for this catalogue. Mrs. Wilder is widely known as author of "My Garden" and "Colour in My Garden"—the first a handbook to enthuse and help any beginner, the second a sumptuous volume illustrated from paintings of her own garden at "Balderbrae," near Suffern, New York. "Country Life" recently published several full-page color plates depicting this garden, so we may know that what Mrs. Wilder writes is well worth reading.



Pink Gladioli, on the contrary, may be used in groups among flowers of almost any color, so happy are they in their friendships save in the case of red. A delightful effect is brought about by planting a dozen or so bulbs of some silvery pink variety like Panama around a well developed plant of Baby's Breath (*Gypsophila Paniculata*). At blossoming time the lovely pink blossoms seem to float above a delicate mist. A splendid salmon-pink Gladiolus of particularly fine form is Butterfly. The throat is flushed with warmer color. Etendard has pale pink petals and a crimson-spotted throat. All these pink Gladioli are particularly delightful for use in the gray willow receptacles now so much in demand for porches and indoor decoration.

Herada is pure mauve in color and very lovely. In the border I like it in a setting of soft gray foliage, Lyme Grass, *Thalictrum Glaucum*, *Nepeta Mussini*, with no warm-toned flowers about. So, too, must be placed that somber beauty, Prince of India, with its soft rose-colored petals overlaid with smoky clouds through which shine strange blue lights.

Blue Jay is the best of the so-called "blue" Gladioli. It is a beautiful variety, warm and rich in tone with a soft bloom like the cheek of a plum upon the finely formed petals. These "blue" Gladioli planted in bold groups in borders or beds where the general effect is light in color—pink and lavender and buff—are very telling, and should be a good deal more used than they are. But perhaps of all the fascinating varieties at our command, none are quite so lovely as the white ones. Two of especial beauty that grew in my garden last summer I must mention in closing these brief notes. These were Peace and the entrancing little French creation called Rouge Torch. Peace is strong and massive throughout, with large white flowers feathered lightly at the throat; the other is its very antithesis—a slender graceful stem, a small flower spike exquisitely formed, a flash of flame upon each gleaming lower petal. It is altogether the most charming Gladiolus of my acquaintance, but it requires to be planted in generous masses to be fully appreciated.

Surely no one need sigh for a gay garden for four months of the year who plants these lovely, willing flowers with a free hand.

LOUISE BEEBE WILDER.



# Indoor Harmonies With Gladioli

There is constantly increasing recognition of the fact that flowers can be used with telling effect to complete or accentuate a color scheme. For this purpose the gladiolus is supreme. Its range of color is infinite, its lasting qualities remarkable, it can be depended upon for stately or graceful effect (according to the varieties employed), and it is available during a very long season.

"We were greatly pleased with all our gladioli, but wildly enthusiastic over the Prince of India," wrote a customer of last year. Venetian rose was the prevailing tone of the noble living hall for which these flowers were cut, and their subtle blending of ashes of roses and smoky blue imparted a final distinction to the room. In an adjoining apartment with dull gold walls and hangings of jade green, Evelyn Kirtland, Prince of Wales, Panama and Myrtle, though varying greatly in their tones of pink, were equally effective, and an Oriental opium bowl of brass filled with the slender, graceful spikes of Rouge Torch was striking in the extreme.

## AN IDEAL LOW DECORATION FOR LUNCHEON OR DINNER

Blue Jay and Nora are soft blues that combine beautifully with the dull blues so often used in dining room or boudoir. For the dining table nothing can be more exquisite than the Primulinus Hybrids, the flowers of orchid-like delicacy and a symphony of soft shades, in which yellow, orange and terracotta predominate. If a very low decoration is desired, simply arrange a few full-blown spikes of gladioli on a background of ferns, or perhaps grape leaves and tendrils. It is not necessary to use any receptacle, as the flowers will keep fresh for several hours without water.

At one of my exhibits a combination especially admired was a crystal bowl with Winsome, Anna Eberius and Herada, a real picture in mauve and magenta. Gray would be a magnificent background for this, and of course for all the pinks.

If the exposure of your rooms and general color scheme permit, try placing a bowl of War or Butterfly or Principe where a stray beam of sunlight can find its way through a window to fall upon the flowers. They will fairly glow. Their rich crimson and salmon are enhanced by the autumn leaves of the woodbine or other vivid foliage.



An Arrangement of Gladioli in Studios of the Paine Furniture Company, Boston.

## SOME EFFECTS WORTH ACHIEVING

Countless harmonies might be suggested, but half the pleasure of growing gladioli lies in experimenting for one's self. A heavy glass frog is indispensable in arranging the flowers in bowls, and so natural do the gladioli look when so placed with liberal foliage and unopened buds that friends will often ask, "Are they growing there?"

But the flowers drew their best compliment from little Rebecca Brown, aged four, who remarked after she had visited the fields of bloom, "My, I feel sorry for myself 'cause I can't live here!"



**AMERICA**—Palest pink, tinged lavender.  
60 cents per dozen, \$4.00 per hundred

**AMERICAN BEAUTY**—True American Beauty Rose color, relieved by a soft yellow throat. Often a dozen immense flowers are open at one time, making a single spike a splendid bouquet.  
\$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen

**ANNA EBERIUS**—Beautiful flowers of deep, velvety magenta of most pleasing shade. One of the very finest dark flowers.  
\$3.00 per dozen

**BERTREX**—Large flower of remarkable purity and substance. The finest white I offer. A vigorous grower.  
\$2.50 per dozen

**BLUE JAY**—Soft blue with markings of deeper tone, and white in throat, give an iris-like effect. Very tall and large. True Blue Jay is rare.  
\$4.00 the dozen

**BUTTERFLY**—Brilliant salmon, throat doubly blotched with deep maroon, the whole appearance greatly resembling a butterfly. Extra fine in the garden.  
\$1.50 per dozen, \$10.50 per hundred

**CHARLEMAGNE**—A French variety of exceptional coloring. Sunrise red with deeper pencilings. A majestic spike.  
\$3.50 per dozen

**D. J. WHITNEY**—Exquisite salmon flesh, impossible to describe without seeming over-enthusiastic. Will command attention in any collection.  
\$1.50 each, \$15.00 per dozen

**ETENDARD**—French growers never contributed a handsomer flower than this, with its blush petals, the lower ones bearing vivid crimson blotches outlined in clear yellow.  
\$4.00 per dozen

**EVELYN KIRTLAND**—A grand coral pink enhanced by deeper shade on lower petals. Wide open, finely shaped flower and tall spike. \$3.00 the dozen

**FAUST**—Big flowers of deep wine color with grayish overcast.  
\$1.25 per dozen, \$8.00 per hundred

**GOLDEN KING**—Massive soft yellow, with maroon throat.  
\$2.00 per dozen

**GOLDEN WEST**—Striking orange red, a distinct and new shade in gladioli. An attention-attracting flower. Other sorts are often sold for Golden West.  
\$2.00 per dozen

**GOLIATH**—Intensely deep red, almost black, much admired.  
\$3.00 per dozen

**HERADA**—Clear mauve, as charming as it is unusual. Flowers extraordinarily large.  
\$3.00 per dozen

**JANE DIEULAFOY**—Cream with chestnut throat. Graceful spikes, often branched.  
\$1.50 per dozen

**LILLIAN WEBB**—The clear red so often seen in imported French artificial flowers. Noticeably straight and slender spike.  
\$1.50 per dozen

**LOUISE**—Immense flowers of clear lavender and deeper throat. A novelty of high merit.  
\$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen

**MARY FENNELL**—Soft lavender merging into a creamy yellow toward the center.  
\$2.50 per dozen

**MAJESTIC**—Clear orange pink with cream-white midrib in each petal. Flower large and open. A very high class novelty for lovers of pure color.  
\$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen

**MRS. COTHRAN**—This blending of ashes of roses and crushed strawberry appeals to those who admire dull shades.  
\$3.00 per dozen

**MRS. DR. NORTON**—White suffused with melting pink. Sulphur yellow blotches on lower petals are dotted with pink. Most widely advertised of recent introductions.  
\$1.50 each, \$15.00 per dozen

**MRS. FRANCIS KING**—Scarlet. Excellent for garden or cutting.  
60 cents per dozen, \$4.00 per hundred

**MRS. W. E. FRYER**—Heavily ruffled, clear red that is particularly pleasing.  
\$1.50 per dozen

**MRS. WILLIAM KENT**—Imagine a fawn flower, shading to ashes of roses. Strong growing and prolific sort. 50 cents each, \$5.00 per dozen

**MYRTLE**—Arbutus pink. Most popular of all in many high-class eastern flower markets.  
\$2.50 per dozen

**NORA**—An European blue, displaying darker markings on lower petals. Fine in contrast to the soft yellow sorts. 60c each, \$6.00 per dozen

**NORMA D. CHILDS**—Palest pink with lemon-yellow throat, an exquisite combination.  
\$3.00 per dozen

**PANAMA**—Soft deep pink, with frosted sheen in sunlight. Equally good under artificial light. Strong growing and desirable in every way.  
\$1.50 per dozen, \$8.00 per hundred

**PEACE**—Stately white, with lilac feather throat. It grows very tall.  
\$1.50 per dozen, \$10.00 per hundred

**PINK PERFECTION**—Apple blossom pink. More than half the spikes are gracefully curved, permitting most artistic vase arrangements.  
\$2.00 per dozen

**PRIDE OF HILLEGON**—Many consider this the finest scarlet. The color is heightened by slight marking of white.  
\$3.00 per dozen

**PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS**—Soft yellows in combination with orange, pink, terra cotta, rose and similar shades, make these distinct. Flowers are of moderate size, hooded in shape and often heavily ruffled. The strain offered has won prizes at many flower shows. Plant generously, and use in clear glass bowls.  
\$1.25 per dozen, \$7.50 per hundred

**PRINCE OF INDIA**—The aristocrat of the garden. A background of ashes of roses, markings of dull blue and smoke gray combine in subtle harmony.  
50 cents each, \$5.50 per dozen

**PRINCE OF WALES**—Softest salmon, with an apricot under-tone like the Ophelia rose. "I must have fifty of those, if I pawn something to get them," was the verdict of one visitor at Gladiolus Farm.  
\$2.50 per dozen, \$18.50 per hundred

**PRINCIPINE**—Crimson with white throat. A brilliant "high-light" for the garden.  
\$1.25 per dozen, \$8.00 per hundred

**ROSELLA**—Gorgeous flowers of true cerise, stained white and purple.  
\$2.00 per dozen

**ROUGE TORCH**—Creamy petals contrasted with crimson velvet tongue in the throat, slender, graceful spikes. A mass of these are magnificently decorative, delicate yet brilliant.  
\$1.50 per dozen, \$9.00 per hundred

**SCHWABEN**—Immense spikes and immense flowers of waxy yellow. They are impressive as lilies.  
\$2.00 per dozen, \$12.00 per hundred

**WAR**—Glowing crimson, the best of its class. Seen in the sunlight, a bed of these is not soon forgotten. The flowers fit into autumn decorations splendidly. Late flowering.  
\$2.00 per dozen, \$12.00 per hundred

**WHITE CLUSTER**—White with soft rose color in throat. The finest white at reasonable price.  
\$1.50 per dozen, \$9.00 per hundred

**WILLY WIGMAN**—Cream petals and rose blotched throat. Try this in a low table decoration.  
\$1.50 per dozen

**WINSOME**—Rosy purple blotches on a light background. Widely expanded flowers.  
\$2.50 per dozen

**YELLOW STANDARD**—Clear yellow, large flowers and tall spike. Supply limited.  
\$3.00 per dozen

**NIAGARA AND PANAMA MIXED**—Put together by mistake, the cream and pink flowers were so tremendously effective that the mixture is offered—it means a material saving over purchasing the two sorts separately.  
90 cents per dozen, \$6.00 per hundred

**NAMED MIXED**—Made up of remnants and accidental mixtures, many of the most desirable kinds are represented in this. An exceptional value.  
70 cents per dozen, \$4.50 per hundred

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Both Convenient and Economical

"OLD FRIENDS," \$1.50

Four bulbs each of:  
America—Pale pink.  
Rouge Torch—Cream and crimson.  
Faust—Deep wine.  
Principine—Scarlet.  
Panama—Deep pink.

"THE AMETHYST," \$3.75

Six bulbs each of:  
Herada—Pure mauve.  
Winsome—Rosy purple.  
Anna Eberius—Grand magenta.



"THE PATRICIAN," \$6.50

One bulb each of:  
American Beauty—Like the rose.  
Louise—Finest lavender.  
Majestic—Orange pink.  
D. J. Whitney—Salmon flesh.  
Mrs. Dr. Norton—Melting pink.  
Nora—Light blue.  
Prince of India—Subtle dull shades.

"1920 RAINBOW COLLECTION," \$13.00

Consists of one bulb of each of the 44 varieties offered in this catalog, a \$14.50 value. This will give you acquaintance with the finest varieties known.



## AN EXTRAORDINARY OFFER

As an incentive to very liberal planting, I offer a choice mixture in small bulbs, ranging from ¼ to 1 inch in diameter at only \$2.25 per hundred, \$20.00 the thousand, all charges prepaid. Practically all will bloom this season if planted early; all will be magnificent bulbs for another year. Many very fine named sorts are included. Club with friends and get a thousand, or plant a thousand in your own garden and cut armfuls of gorgeous flowers.

### A FEW OTHER PLANTS WORTH HAVING

Visitors to Gladiolus Farm have often admired perennials grown for our own pleasure, and rapid increase of the plants permits me to offer a few of them. They should be planted in early spring and will give pleasure for years.

**ANCHUSA ITALICA** (Dropmore)—Bears a cloud of intensely blue flowers in early summer. Height, 3 to 4 feet. Excellent for backgrounds or bold massing.

25 cents each, \$2.50 per dozen

**JAPANESE ANEMONE**—Queen Charlotte, 4 feet tall, lovely single flowers of silvery pink. Unequaled for informal hedges, fine for cutting. Fall blooming.

35 cents each, \$3.50 per dozen

**ASTERS**—Gracillissimas. Most lasting and delicate of all asters. A profusion of delicate white flowers, which turn blue and remain attractive until heavy freezing.

35 cents each, \$3.50 per dozen

**CLIMAX ASTER**—Six feet tall, with lovely single purple flowers displaying a golden center. Soon makes large clump.

50 cents each, \$5.00 per dozen

**ERYNGIUM**—Small flowering thistle-like flowers, which form as sage green, later turning to an amethyst blue. Even stems have the blue sheen. 4 feet.

25 cents each, \$2.50 per dozen

**HELIANTHUS**—Soleil d'Or. Very double golden yellow flowers, borne until frost if faded ones are picked. 3 feet. Fine to plant in front of Climax Aster, for gold and purple combination. 25 cents each, \$2.50 per dozen

**HELIANTHUS**—Sparsifolius. Six feet tall. Big single yellow flowers of great decorative value. Plant where it will have plenty of room, as it increases fast.

25 cents each, \$2.50 per dozen

**PHLOX**—Panthenon. Cheerful bright pink, with delightful old-fashioned fragrance.

25 cents each, \$2.50 per dozen

**HONEYSUCKLE**—Rapid growing, almost evergreen climber, with deliciously fragrant flowers which open white and turn to yellow.

Fine plants, 50 cents each

**THE IRIS**—With similar foliage to the gladiolus, the iris is a perennial admirably suited to planting with gladioli. I have a very fine collection, but offer only two varieties this year:

**MADAM CHEREAU**—White edged with pale blue. 30 cents each, \$3.00 per dozen

**PALLIDA DALMATICA**—Immense flowers of clear lavender, charmingly fragrant.

35 cents each, \$3.50 the dozen



A Vista From Gladiolus Farm.

I also have perennials for immediate effect, too large to mail, or in quantity insufficient to catalog, concerning which correspondence is invited.







*Gladiolus Farm*

## An Invitation



IN LATTER April and May my collection of Iris is worth seeing, while from July 1 until frost there will be a grand display of gladioli. "Gladiolus Farm" itself is so romantically situated at the confluence of the Bull Run and Sandy rivers that its views repay the trip at any season.

It is 23 miles east of Portland ON MAIN BULL RUN ROAD, and on bluff overlooking the Pipe Line Bridge, 250 feet below. Hard surfaced road to Gresham, then excellent gravel. Watch for "Gladiolus Farm" signs on last third of road.

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ORDERING

Both bulbs and plants are sent prepaid at prices quoted.

One bulb at one-tenth of dozen price, six bulbs at dozen rate, fifty bulbs at hundred rate.

Delivery is made any time after January 1, but whenever delivery is desired, early ordering is recommended, while assortment is complete.

Remittance (or bank reference) should accompany the order. Either check or postal order is acceptable, or for orders up to \$1.00 two-cent stamps will be taken.

The greatest care is taken to supply bulbs true to name. Errors will be cheerfully rectified to the extent of replacing untrue bulbs, but no further responsibility is assumed.

Make remittances payable to

W. L. CRISSEY,  
"Gladiolus Farm,"

R. F. D. 1, Boring, Oregon.

Long distance phone: Farmers 343, Gresham Exchange.

Telegraph address: Care Gresham Telephone Exchange.